

May 24, 2011

**OHIO COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
LOCAL/STATE BOARD FACILITIES HEARING REPORT**

A Local/State public hearing was held at the Ohio County High School Cafeteria on May 24, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. (CDT). The purpose of the public hearing was to propose a new District Facility Plan developed by the Ohio County Board of Education. The Local Planning Committee (LPC) voted (9-5) in opposition to the proposed plan submitted by the Board of Education and the Board voted 3-2 to approve the district facilities plan submitted by the Ohio County Board of Education. The Board of Education was required by the Kentucky Department of Education to have a fourth public forum. The board voted (3-0) in favor of their proposed District Facilities Plan after the forum.

There were forty-five (45) individuals in attendance. Grover Canty, Facilitator for the Kentucky School Boards Association, served as the district-appointed hearing officer.

COMMENTS

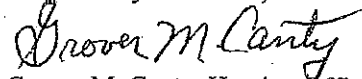
The hearing officer called the public hearing to order. The hearing officer outlined the purpose of the hearing and the hearing procedures in accordance with 702 KAR 1:001. It was explained that those persons wishing to speak would be given the opportunity and that written statements would be accepted. All considerations will be made available to the Kentucky Board of Education via the hearing officer's report. The hearing officer read the proposed new District Facility Plan which includes; **Making All Schools Permanent Centers with an organizational plan of P-6, 7-8, 9-12. There are no projects in Priority One (1). Priority Two (2) includes Major Renovations/additions to Wayland Alexander Elementary, Ohio Co. Middle School, Ohio Co. High School, Render Center, Western Elementary, Fordsville Elementary, Area Technology Center, Southern Elementary and Horse Branch Elementary. There are no projects in Priority Three (3) and Priority Four (4) includes Major renovations to Central Office, Central Storage, Maintenance Building, and Central Bus Garage. Priority Five (5) includes several (11) discretionary projects.**

There was written testimony submitted to the district Superintendent Ralph by Chris Westerfield in opposition to the boards District Facilities Plan (read at the hearing and attached to hearing report). A copy of newspaper articles written concerning the District Facilities Plan was submitted. These articles were not read at the hearing but are attached to this report. All written testimony is attached to this hearing report. The floor was opened to those who wished to make a statement. Several (5) persons Cheston Hoover (district principal), Terri Minton (a parent), Marianne Pieper (community person), Bobbie Porter (elementary teacher) and Jeff Evans (Board Member) spoke in opposition of the plan drafted by the board of education. They spoke in favor of the plan submitted by the Local Planning Committee. Mrs. Pieper submitted a petition which is attached. Barry Geary (Board Member) spoke in support of the Board of Education's Draft Facilities Plan...

RECOMMENDATIONS

The LPC and Ohio County Board of Education are in disagreement over the District Facilities Plan. We have had numerous meetings, four (4) public forums and one (1) Local/State Public Hearing. The entire process has been in full compliance with the Kentucky Department of Education Planning and Master Educational Facilities Manual 702 KAR 4:180.

Respectfully submitted,



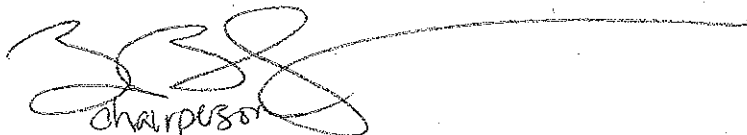
Grover M. Canty, Hearing Officer

Reviewed by;

Timothy K. Lucas, KDE Fac. Mgmt.

cc: Greg Dunbar, Director
Planning File

Attachments: Local/State Board Public Hearing Agenda,
Ohio Co. School District Facility Plan, Board Order Approving Hearing
Officers Report, and DFP. Recording of Public Hearing.



Timothy K. Lucas